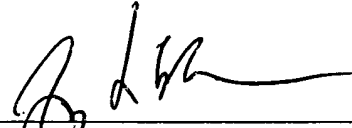


Remarks/Arguments:

With the present amendment, claims 1-17 are pending. All claims and the Abstract have been amended to remove the reference numerals/letters and to place the claims in U.S. form. Claims 5, 6, 8, 11, 13, and 16 have also been amended to remove the multiple dependencies.

Applicant respectfully requests prompt consideration and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorneys for Applicant

JLE/JEM/mc

Enclosure: ABSTRACT

Dated: June 7, 2006

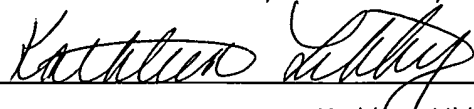
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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Kathleen Libby